

October Mixed Waste Subgroup Highlights

The Hanford Mixed Waste (MW) Subgroup met on October 9, 1997. Norm Olson distributed a documentation summary sheet showing the status of all 18 technology deployment fact sheets that FDH worked on. In addition, Norm distributed individual fact sheets for 13 technologies including 11 that had been previously reviewed by the MW Subgroup.

Joe Waring updated the subgroup on the status of a letter to the MW Focus Area (MWFA). The subgroup agreed that a sentence linking this letter to the PNNL proposal being submitted soon should be removed from this letter. It was suggested that the macroencapsulation demonstration success should be mentioned in the letter. Joe Waring will sign the letter as the MW Subgroup chair rather than to wait to put it through the STCG Management Council (MC). The letter deals with the lack of response to Hanford MW technology needs over the last year. A copy of the signed letter will be sent to all subgroup members.

Joe Waring reported that the macroencapsulation demo was completed successfully in September. There was a Hanford Reach article done on this demonstration also. This project was done ahead of time and could serve as a model as to how to bring in commercial technologies to be tested, developed and deployed at Hanford. There is a final report being written now which will be sent to all subgroup members when finished.

Bill Bonner gave an update on the status of the PNNL proposal to be sent to the MWFA. BHI is looking at whether the technology has any applications in the next year. The proposal pricing was raised as a concern but the subgroup thought it looked okay. Letters of support for the proposal from WMH and BHI were being drafted. Once these support letters are received the transmittal letter and proposal will be sent in with them.

The MWFA is having a product line review meeting to kick-off the new fiscal year. It is to be held at INEEL on October 14 to 17. Bill Bonner will be attending and WMH may send someone also. Bill will report back to the subgroup on this meeting at the November Subgroup meeting.

The Hanford MW Technology Needs were distributed to the subgroup members along with comments received from the Yakama Indian Nation(YIN). Joe Waring spoke to these comments and encouraged the YIN to send a member to our subgroup meetings to get up to speed on the needs we identified and the process we used to do so. Greg Berlin and Larbi Bounini will work on a reply to the YIN comments on our needs. The needs will be reviewed and endorsed by the STCG MC at their October meeting.

Bill Bonner distributed draft copies of this year's MW Science Needs for subgroup review. There was a discussion as to the difference between science and technology needs. Bill stated that science needs are at least a step removed from a technology

solution. Jim Hanson will provide a copy of a report outlining the DOE gate process that describes the various stages of technology development from basic science research to technology implementation in the field. The subgroup would like to see a match made between the EMSP grants and the Sites' science needs. We may need to ask the Keystone group, who are doing a review of EMSP, or the EMSP group themselves how the science needs are used in determining the grants.

A discussion ensued on each of the science needs with the following being some of the action items arising from this discussion:

- Remove the medium priority science need for decontamination methods of materials as this would be a technology need;
- Rewrite the title of the radiolysis need to focus on fundamental understanding and check to see if it is really a science need;
- Delete the low priority science need for alternative waste forms;
- Change the ranking from medium to high for the general science need dealing with the effects of low-radiation levels on an individual;
- Change the title of the general science need dealing with methods to remove radioactivity from an individual to "radioactive nuclides" rather than "radioactivity";
- All the general needs were reprioritized into three high and two medium needs; and
- Check on the Subcon Subgroups science needs to see if the two medium priority general needs are on their list also.

Copies of the STCG Handbook will be mailed to all subgroup members before the next meeting to facilitate a discussion of the subgroup's FY98 work plans.

MW Subgroup Attendees 10/9/97

Ted Anderson	BMI	372-9343
Greg Berlin	FDH	372-0623
Bill Bonner	PNNL	372-6263
Larbi Bounini	WMH	376-4650
Jim Hanson	DOE	372-4503
Moses Jaraysi	Ecology	736-3016
Norm Olson	FDH	372-4810
Gordon Rogers	HAB	547-7403
Joe Waring	DOE	373-7687
Steve Weakley	PNNL	372-4275